



Weekly Bulletin

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish

St. Michael's Church - 58 Orwell Street, South Blacktown. & St. Patrick's Church - 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown.

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ YEAR A

30TH APRIL 2023

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Mary Queen of the Family (MQOF) parish strives to live as a faithful and committed Catholic community, continuing to deepen in understanding the Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture of the Catholic Church and to grow as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ, evangelising and responding to the needs of the family in the Blacktown community and beyond.

LITURGY TIMES

Weekday Masses

St Michael's: 8am Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
7.30pm Wed only

St Patrick's: 9am Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat and
7.30pm Fri only.

Sunday Masses

5.30pm Sat Vigil (St Patrick's)
6.00pm 2nd Sat Vigil - Filipino Mass (St Michael's)
7.00am Sun (St Patrick's)
8.00am Sun (St Michael's)
9.30am Sun (St Michael's)
10.00am Sun (St Patrick's)
11.00am 4th Sun - Filipino Mass (St Michael's)
2:00pm - Sudanese Mass (St Patrick's)
1.00pm - Syro-Malabar Mass (St Michael's)
5.30pm Sun (St Patrick's)
6.00pm Sun (St Michael's)

RECONCILIATION

St Michael's: Wed 6:30pm-7:20pm

St Patrick's: Fri 6:30pm-7:20pm &
Sat 9:30am-10:30am

HOLY HOUR

St Michael's: Wed 6:30pm-7:30pm

St Patrick's: Fri 6:30pm-7:30pm

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals & Anointing of the Sick
by appointment.

Jesus, the Good Shepherd: a call for Vocation

This Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally known as Good Shepherd Sunday, also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We are invited to pray for vocations of priesthood, diaconate, the consecrated life, and lay vocation in the Church.

We hear the readings of the Old and New Testaments use the image of the Shepherd and flock to tell us the unique relationship of God with Israel, and of Christ with Christians. In the Gospel, Jesus described two brief parables. The first parable describes Jesus as the selfless servant, the good shepherd sent by God to care for the people of Israel who had been abandoned by their appointed leaders for so long. The second parable describes Jesus as a unique gateway or sheep gate guiding his flock to eternal salvation. Jesus is the gate to let us access God.

In the First reading, if we can read closely, St Peter gave his first sermon during the day of Pentecost. He was telling his fellow Jewish listeners that they have crucified their true shepherd. But he rose from the dead. He asked his listeners to repent and receive forgiveness for their sin by receiving baptism in the name of Jesus. They should acknowledge Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. In the second reading, Peter did not leave there, he encourages the suffering Christians to become fully the children of God by following in the footsteps of their suffering Servant, the Good Shepherd who protects his sheep from the wolf.

Jesus did not come to steal or destroy as a hired shepherd, but he has come to fill us with his self-giving words of his own divine life. We know that the hired shepherds expose the sheep to danger rather than caring for them. We are sadly aware of how the Church has suffered from mere hired shepherds who exploited and abused the sheep. This is the time for us to think deeper into our vocation. Because Jesus knows his sheep and they are eager to listen and recognise his voice, that is, his teaching. He gives them eternal life not to be taken out from his hand.

In today's readings, Jesus calls us to be good shepherds of God's flock and good sheep of his Church in the parishes where we find ourselves living. Jesus says to us, he is the Good Shepherd and that his sheep follow him because they recognise his voice. But why should we follow Jesus? Because through the water of baptism we are filled with the Holy Spirit. We are called to follow, listen, obey, and to do what he asks us to do to continue in his mission until the end of the world.

As Christians, we are called to take vocation through our baptism. The baptised Christians are to take and carry the cross of Jesus as a ransom for human suffering. our Christian vocation cannot be on what we do, but by our sacrifice and the love that Jesus Christ has shown us. Let us remember as we reflect on the readings for this fourth Sunday of Easter.

Deacon John Cinya

Parish Directory

St. Michael's Church - 58 Orwell Street, South Blacktown &
St. Patrick's Church - 51-59 Allawah Street Blacktown.

Parish Office: At St. Patrick's Church. **Office Hours:** Mon-Fri: 9am-4pm
Telephone: 02 9622 1125 **A/H:** 02 8705 0830.
Website: www.mqofblacktown.org.au **Email:** admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Parish Team:

Parish Priest: Fr. Regie Lavilla, MSP.

Assistant Priests: Fr. Ever Bernaldez, MSP & Fr. Andrew Rooney

Deacons: Rev. John Cinya & Rev. Tom Green

Finance Officer: Sarah Canete-Damole **Email:** accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au

Secretaries: Ann Hart (Wed-Fri) & Gerald "Ged" Oblea (Mon & Tues)

Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Gerald "Ged" Oblea. **Mobile:** 0422 724 008

Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au

Catechist Coordinator: Sandra Baker

Youth Minister & Liturgy Coordinator: Blake Bano

Parish Pastoral Council: **Chair:** Cecil Fernandes; **Asst Chair:** Joshua Carr **Secretary:** Savita Surendra
Members: Beato Pudadera, Ekhas Ambili, Erica Luiz, Harlane Petersen, Helena Vea, Tony Fernando, Sidney Lazum, Fr. Regie Lavilla, Fr. Andrew Rooney, Fr. Ever Bernaldez, Rev. John Cinya, & Blake Bano.

Parish Schools:

St Michael's Primary:

P : 8869 6200 <https://www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

St Patrick's Primary:

P : 8869 6000 <https://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

Nagle College:

P : 8887 4507 <https://www.nagleblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

Patrician Brothers College:

P : 8811 0300 <https://www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au>

Catholic Early Learning Centre (St Michael's) :

P : 8814 8406 <https://www.celcblacktownstn.catholic.edu.au>

Nursing Homes:

Opal Nursing Home (37 Kildare Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P : 9852 9600

Mulluana Retirement Village (61 Bungarribee Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P : 8822 2100

Catholic Healthcare St Hedwig Village Blacktown (140 Reservoir Rd, Blacktown 2148) P : 8822 9920



Welcome to the Family..



We are a welcoming parish... you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected by the Catholic Community of Mary, Queen of the Family. If you are not an active member of this Community, consider partaking in what we have to offer. We serve the Community through outreach, education, social activities, sacramental preparation, youth and comfort to the sick and mourning. In addition to our spiritual and outreach organisations, perchance you have an interest in joining one of our many liturgical ministries such as: Minister of Holy Communion, Reader/Commentator, Welcomer, Collectors, Minister of DVP/Power Point, Catechists etc.

Volunteers are formally registered by filling out a *Join a Ministry* form that is then entered into the parish data system (*information supplied remains confidential*). These forms are available from the parish office or in the church foyer, or for further information call the Parish Office on 9622 1125.

~ *The Parish Team*

MARY QUEEN OF THE FAMILY ~ PARISH MISSION



- * Grow as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ
- * Deepen our understanding of the Sacred Tradition & Scriptures of the Catholic Church
- * Strive to live as a faithful & committed Catholic community
- * Evangelise and respond to the needs of the family in the Blacktown community and beyond



OBJECTIVES TO MEET OUR MISSION AT MARY QUEEN OF THE FAMILY PARISH.

WORSHIP ~ Practice the right forms of Worship. **WORD** ~ Increase the Biblical literacy in the Parish. **WALL** ~ Building our community.

FORMED



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Follow the steps below to get access

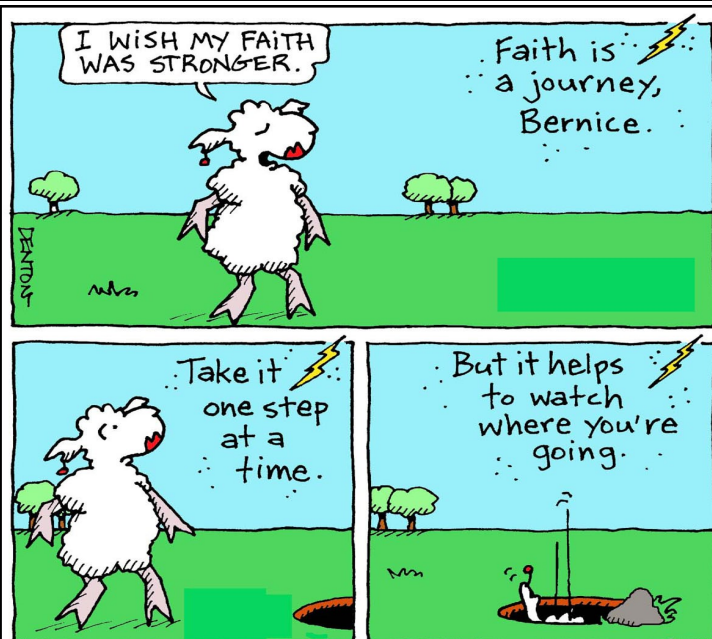


1. Scan the QR code - to go to the FORMED website;
2. In the Parish search field - type "2148" - to find our Parish name;
3. Select "Mary Queen of the Family" and press "Next";
4. Enter your Name and your Email address to register a new account and press "Sign Up";
5. Download the FORMED app on your phone and "Sign In" using your email address in step 4;
6. Browse, Watch, Listen, Read, and Study - to form your catholic conscience.

FR. ANDREW ROONEY ON LEAVE

Please note that Fr. Rooney is currently on annual leave and returning to the parish office on 17th May 2023
Thank you.

SUNDAY FLOCK



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"The sheep follow [the shepherd], because they recognize his voice."

Sheepish Question:

What hazards must I be ready for in following the way of Christ?

THE LITURGY

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ YEAR A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf. Ps 32:5-6

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

FIRST READING: ACTS 2:14. 36-41

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 22:1-6. R. V.1

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

SECOND READING: 1 PT 2:20-25

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Jn 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Jn 10:1-10

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

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CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

PART TWO: THE CELEBRATION OF THE CHRISTIAN MYSTERY

SECTION TWO THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH

CHAPTER TWO THE SACRAMENTS OF HEALING

Article 4 THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION

THE SACRAMENTS OF HEALING

VIII. The Minister of This Sacrament

1464 Priests must encourage the faithful to come to the sacrament of Penance and must make themselves available to celebrate this sacrament each time Christians reasonably ask for it.⁷⁰

1465 When he celebrates the sacrament of Penance, the priest is fulfilling the ministry of the Good Shepherd who seeks the lost sheep, of the Good Samaritan who binds up wounds, of the Father who awaits the prodigal son and welcomes him on his return, and of the just and impartial judge whose judgment is both just and merciful. the priest is the sign and the instrument of God's merciful love for the sinner.

1466 The confessor is not the master of God's forgiveness, but its servant. the minister of this sacrament should unite himself to the intention and charity of Christ.⁷¹ He should have a proven knowledge of Christian behavior, experience of human affairs, respect and sensitivity toward the one who has fallen; he must love the truth, be faithful to the Magisterium of the Church, and lead the penitent with patience toward healing and full maturity. He must pray and do penance for his penitent, entrusting him to the Lord's mercy.

1467 Given the delicacy and greatness of this ministry and the respect due to persons, the Church declares that every priest who hears confessions is bound under very severe penalties to keep absolute secrecy regarding the sins that his penitents have confessed to him. He can make no use of knowledge that confession gives him about penitents' lives.⁷² This secret, which admits of no exceptions, is called the "sacramental seal," because what the penitent has made known to the priest remains "sealed" by the sacrament.

DAILY READINGS

Monday 1st May: Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10 or Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday 2nd May: Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30.

Wednesday 3rd May: 1 Cor 15:1-8 ; Jn 14:6-14.

Thursday 4th May: Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20.

Friday 5th May: Acts 13:26-33 ; Jn 14: 1-6.

Saturday 6th May: Acts 13:44-52 ; Jn 14:7-14.

Sunday 7th May: Acts 6:1-7; 1 Pt 2:4-9 ; Jn 14:1-12.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED

Amelia Demagante

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

May Jumeau, Raoul Jumeau & Roland Bouquet,
William Martins, Anacorita Ingles

IN MEMORIUM

Frank Cefai, William Peppin, Otto Zehentner, Benjamin Ingles

SICK

Genevieve Williams, Emily Rosales, Meghan De Vos, Dorothy Angyalfi,
Josie Phelps, Marie France Raymond, Raully Aure, Vinnie Zahra,
Gloria Rivas, Teresita Alston, Edna Canete.

Names submitted to Parish for the sick list will be published for 4 weeks at a time.

THE SACRAMENTS & MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Baptism

Parents wishing to have their children baptised are to contact the parish office prior to attending a Baptism workshop. The next workshop will on Saturday 6th May 2023. - St. Patrick's Church.

For more information please logon to our website:

<https://mqofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/#baptism>

With joyful hearts, we welcome our newly Baptised to our parish community:

Skylar Fazon & Ziahna Kumar

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS 2023

The sacramental process dates and registration for 2023 are now available on our parish website. Follow the below link:

<https://mqofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/>

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS REGISTRATION CLOSURE DATES:

Confirmation Process: **3rd July 2023.**

Reconciliation process for Year 3 - 6: **17th September 2023.**

High School Sacramental Process Begins: 2nd May 2023.

First Eucharist Process Begins: 2nd May 2023.

REGISTRATIONS OPEN FOR SACRAMENTAL PROCESSES NOW OPEN!

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our sacramental coordinator on the details below:

Gerald "Ged" Oblea (Sacramental Coordinator)

Mary Queen of the Family Parish Blacktown.

Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au

Ph: 02 9622 1125 – option 4 Mobile: 0422 724 008

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES IN 2023

Getting married in 2023? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit www.parracatholic.org/pmp to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called Smart Loving can also be booked via the website. For more information, email met@parracatholic.org or phone Karin on 0419 242 435 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

FAITH IN MARRIAGE SEMINAR



Introducing: Chris Padgett
American Speaker, Musician, Author and Professor of Theology Touring Australia

FREE EVENT: HAPPY MARRIAGE
Faith filled ways to a better relationship.

Friday **19 May 7:30pm**
St Paul the Apostle Church, 40 Buckleys Rd, Winston Hills

Please register your attendance at:
marriage@parracatholic.org

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Our clergy and pastoral care ministers bring the sacraments of Eucharist, reconciliation, and anointing of the sick to members who are unable to participate because of illness or aging. For more information and to arrange receiving of the sacraments, please contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125 or after office hours number 02 8705 0830.



PARISH GROUPS

BIBLE STUDY GROUP



Contact: Richard Desa, richarddesa@bigpond.com
Meeting Time and Venue: Every Thursday, 7:30pm at Sid Mosley Centre St. Michael's Church.

HOLY FAMILY FELLOWSHIP PRAYER GROUP

Contact: Charles Hyson, 0412 631 602, www.holyfamilyfellowship.com

Meeting Time and Venue: Every 2nd Saturday 6:30pm-9:30pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.

JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS



Contact: Antoinette Mangion, 0414 735 943

Meeting Time and Venue: Every 3rd Monday of the month, 10:00 am at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church

LEGION OF MARY ST MICHAEL'S



Contact: Noemi Romero, 0475 798 770 (for statue bookings)

Meeting Time and Venue: Every Thursday, 4:00pm – 6:00pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.

LEGION OF MARY ST PATRICK'S

Contact: Maurice Bru 0419 626 583 (for statue bookings)
Meeting Time and Venue: Every Thursday, 7:30pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church.

MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS



Contact: Max Rosario, 0490 137 533

Meeting Time and Venue: Monday 9:30am-10:30am at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church. All are welcome!

MQOF SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP



Contact: Jude Besterwitsch, 0435 588 309

Meeting Time and Venue: 2nd Sunday of every month, 12pm–2pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church

ROSARY GROUP



Contact: Diane Zerafa, 0403 554 566

Meeting Time and Venue: Every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday after the 8am Mass, at St Michael's church.

CATECHIST MINISTRY



Contact: Sandra Baker

admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

For More Information please contact our the parish office.

TEHILLAH COMMUNITY



Contact: Ash & Rozario Fernando , 0416 861 976 or 0412 195 916

Meeting Time and Venue: Every 2nd & 4th Saturday (school term) between 2pm - 4pm at the Cardinal Clancy Room, St Patrick's Church.

TRUE LIFE IN GOD PRAYER GROUP



Contact: Diane Zerafa, 0403 554 566

Meeting Time and Venue: 3.00pm every second Saturday of the month at St Michael's Church



Contact: Blake Bano

Blake@mqofblacktown.org.au

For More Information please contact our Youth Minister.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

SYNOD ~ DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

The Bishop has formerly announced, and work is well underway, for a Diocesan Synod.

A Synod is an event where clergy, religious, and the laity gather to discuss important matters relating to the life and mission of the Church. But before the "main event" in October, there is a big process of collating feedback from as many people as possible.



It's a big task, but an important one as we want to hear everyone's perspective on the future and life of our Church here in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains. This is the first ever Synod for our Diocese, but it's not out of the blue.

For the last few years, there have been many national and international Synods, as well as the Australian Plenary Council. And now it's time for us as a Diocese to come together and be part of this transformative process and event that leads to renewal in the Church's life.

Fr. Regie has appointed Blake Bano and Richard Desa to represent the parish to lead, meet and organise spiritual conversations on the themes for the Synod.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY RETURNS



Dear Parishioners,

We are excited to inform you that the Children's Liturgy will kick off again at the parish shortly.

This will be hosted for about 25 minutes during the 9.30am

Sunday Mass at St. Michael's and the 10.00am Sunday mass at St. Patrick's.

The purpose is to catechise our children and help them learn about Jesus and the story of Salvation.

All children from ages 2-12 and who have not yet received First Holy Communion are very welcome.

We are also seeking volunteers to assist in this ministry, if you are interested please contact the parish office to register your details!

CFC ~ CHRISTIAN LIFE PROGRAM



Invites you to a

Christian Life Program

Starts on Apr 30, 2023 (Sun)
2pm-4pm

St. Patrick's Church
51-59 Allawah St.
Blacktown NSW 2148



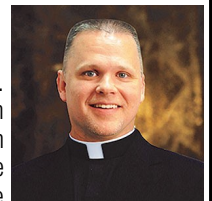
You may contact the following:
Allan Tolentino 0433 846 977
Gerie Tabernero 0428 395 627
Mike Marquez 0425 344 485
Carmela Marquez 0428 269 196



"Again, Jesus said, 'Peace be with you.' As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'"
John 20: 21-22

SAVE THE DATE ~ FR CHRIS ALAR

Understanding the Divine Mercy



On the Sunday 28th May 2023, Fr. Chris Alar, MIC, will be celebrating Mass at St. Patrick's Church Blacktown at 10.00am followed by a talk on understanding the Divine Mercy at 11.00am. All are welcome to attend. Father Chris Alar, MIC, entered the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception, the religious community entrusted with spreading the message and devotion of Divine Mercy, as a postulant in July 2006. Prior to that time, he received a Bachelor of Science in industrial engineering and a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Michigan.

After working as an engineering manager at a large automotive supplier in Detroit, he began his own consulting firm in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 2000. Answering the Lord's call, he attended Franciscan University of Steubenville, in Ohio, for his philosophy studies; Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C., for his theology studies; and he earned his Masters of Divinity degree from Holy Apostles Seminary in Cromwell, Connecticut. He wrote and produced the popular "Divine Mercy 101" and "Explaining the Faith" DVD series and is the author of the bestselling book *After Suicide: There's Hope for Them and for You*, as well as *Understanding Divine Mercy*. He is host of the EWTN show *Living Divine Mercy*, which airs on Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. EST. He serves as "Fr. Joseph, MIC," the Director of the Association of Marian Helpers, and is the head of Marian Press, located on the grounds of the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

FROM THE SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM



Mary's Pantry and the Social Justice Group would like to thank all of you for supporting their Lenten Giving Tree.

Thank you so much for your overwhelming generosity. Your donation has helped those who are struggling in the community and beyond.

We ask you to continue to support us. Our drop-off boxes can be found in the foyers of both churches. Your generosity and kindness is greatly appreciated.

Please join us for morning tea every Wednesday after the 9am Mass in the Cardinal Clancy Room. All are welcome!!



ARTS & CRAFT MOVEMENT

Join us every Friday of the week from 10.00am till 12:00pm at Cardinal Clancy room at St. Patrick's Church. Our Arts and Crafts activities will include: Embroidery and Embellishment, Crocheting, Knitting, Arts and Crafts (Painting) & Sewing.

Please, note all sessions are free. Materials for the lessons is provided or bring your own materials. Refreshment is provided.

For any inquiries please contact: Noemi Romero Mobile: 0475 798 770.

MQOF FLOWER MINISTRY



THE MQOF FLOWER MINISTRY is holding a MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE with six great prizes to be won.

Tickets are available at the church doors before and after the weekend Masses for \$2 each or 3 for \$5 and will be drawn following the BAKE SALE on 14th May 2023. Sweet Treat Packs will be on sale for \$10 each. Treats can also be purchased individually for \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Refreshments will be provided.

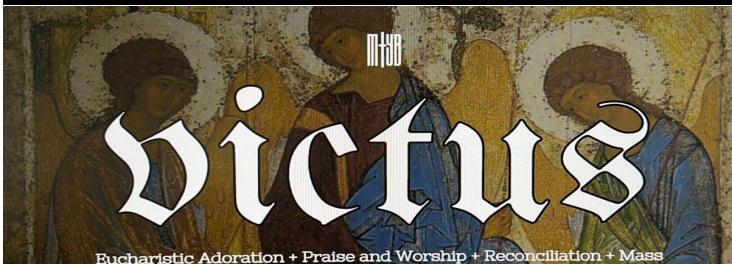
Thank you for your support.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE ~ PARISH MOVIE NIGHT



VICTUS ~ EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



Every 1st Friday of the month.
6.30pm ~ Adoration & Reconciliation / 7.30pm ~ Mass

AN EVENING WITH SIMON CARRINGTON

Wow, Glory be to God! On Thursday night we had over 95 young adults join us at our Parish for the talk with Simon Carrington. It was so inspiring to see and engage with other likeminded young adults who are so deeply passionate about our Catholic faith and spreading Jesus' love. Let this be a testament to show just how many young people are yearning and seeking the truth of our faith and identity.

Once again, thank you to everyone who joined us- even those from as far as the Central Coast! We are so grateful for your support, please keep us in your prayers as we keep you in ours!

BONUS: We warmly invite you to our next talk "Finding a Love that satisfies with Simon Carrington" on Thursday 29th June at 7:30pm. Targeted for our teens (12-18) but those who are interested are welcome to attend!



PARISH WORLD YOUTH DAY PILGRIM

Hi, I am Jonathan, and I am one of the pilgrims from Mary, Queen of the Family Parish going to World Youth Day 2023.

I have been a parishioner at this Parish my whole life and am a member of MQOF youth. I am currently completing my studies in Law and Psychology at Macquarie University and work part-time as a paralegal.

I have been blessed with the opportunity to attend World Youth Day later this year.



While I am undertaking this pilgrimage with an open mind, I am certain the experience will enrich my relationship with God as we engage in prayer and fellowship with thousands of young Catholics from across the globe. I am also looking forward to visiting a number of towns/cities across Europe where saints have devoted their lives to Christ, and where miracles have taken place. I imagine that being physically present in these Holy sites will only strengthen my faith.

On returning from the pilgrimage, I hope to be able to share my experiences and what I have learnt with those in the parish community. I believe myself and the other pilgrims from our parish will be devoted to establishing a strong faith-based culture within the youth of our parish which is vital for the future of our Church.

On behalf of all the MQOF pilgrims, we are grateful for all those who have already contributed towards our fundraising efforts and appreciate any further support if you are in a position to do so. We ask that you please keep us in your prayers as we prepare to undertake this faith journey. Thank you. God bless.

Thank you, again Jonathan.

TRIVIA NIGHT ~ WYD FUNDRAISER

Trivia Night

Big Prizes

Food Included

SATURDAY MAY 20

NAGLE COLLEGE HALL, 58A ORWELL STREET 2148
BLACKTOWN

DOORS OPEN AT : 6:30PM
TRIVIA STARTS AT : 7:00PM

TICKET PRICE: \$200 FOR TEAMS OF 10 OR \$25PP

Note: Please bring cash for mini game opportunities

TOTUS ~ COMMUNITY & FORMATION

T O T U S
COMMUNITY AND FORMATION FOR DISCERNMENT

"GOD'S CALL, MY CHOICE"
Fr Matthew Dimian

Wednesday 3rd of May
St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

RSVP:
www.parracatholic.org/totus



PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

UPDATE ON "RAISE THE ROOF" PROJECT

We are grateful to all our parishioners and friends who shared their treasures to our church. As of 26th April 2023, we have received the sum of **\$76,238.00** in donations. We are also thankful to those who are still considering... only your continued support can make the roof of the House of our God rebuild!

Where are we now? The parish maintenance volunteers in their recent meeting decided to contact the Property Manager of the Diocese of Parramatta to provide a roof expert to reassess the roof issue and provide recommendations. We will keep you posted of the outcome. Again we ask for your patience, generosity and prayers and, thank you for your ongoing support. It is much appreciated.



HOW TO DONATE:

1. Scan the QR code to donate or logon to the following link (<https://www.mqofblacktown.org/make-a-donation-or-payment>)
Please type 'Raise the Roof' or just 'Roof' in the description field when making the donation.
2. Fill in the red 'Raise the Roof' donation form we have placed at the doors of each church authorising us to debit your Credit card or bank account and then, drop this into the collection bags or to the parish office; or
3. Simply place your cash donation in an envelope marked 'Raise the Roof' together with your name and contact details and drop this into collection bags or to the parish office.
4. Set up a new Planned Giving or increase your current one via Credit Card or Direct Debit from bank account (this form is available in the foyer)

If you have any questions or, if you can assist or support us in any way, due to your expertise or background, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125.

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Setting up a one-time or recurring donation/Planned Giving is quick and easy. Just go to: www.mqofblacktown.org.au/donations.
You can also send your offerings/donations thru bank transfer:

FIRST COLLECTION: For the Diocesan Clergy

Account Name: Diocesan Clergy
Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 0000 4265
Reference: 6004 - Donor's Name

SECOND COLLECTION: For the Parish

Account Name: Blacktown Catholic Church
Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 0000 0677
Reference: 6004 ~ Donor's name

If you encounter any issues signing up, please email Sarah at accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au. Thank you so much for your continued support of our parish. We are grateful!

You can also support the parish by using our Tap & Go Machine. The machine is set at \$10, to donate more than \$10 simply tap your credit card as many times as you like. It also accepts Apple Pay, Google Pay and Pay Wave. All contributions go to the maintenance and development of the Parish as does the second collection at weekend Masses.

Planned Giving (Direct Debit or Credit Card) is also an option if you wish to do cashless donation to the parish, forms are available in the foyer and on our parish website or contact the parish office on 9622 1125.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR BULLETIN

Scan this QR code or log on to our website, to subscribe to our weekly bulletin. You will receive a copy of our bulletin via email on a weekly basis. <https://www.mqofblacktown.org/subscribenow>



SAVE THE DATE ~ PARISH EVENTS

Our parish need volunteers on each event, we are calling all interested volunteers for a meeting on **Thursday, 4th of May at 6:30pm** at the parish office. Feel free to call the parish office on 9622 1125, if you need more information/clarification. Thank you so much for your valuable assistance. God bless us.

PARISH FEAST DAY IN HONOUR OF MARY,
QUEEN OF THE FAMILY - Sunday,
20th of August, 2023

PARISH GOLF DAY – Friday, 29th of
September, 2023

PARISH CHRISTMAS GALA – Saturday, 09th of December, 2023



FREE CPR TRAINING

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You are invited to register for an accredited CPR Course being offered by Surf Life Saving NSW. This is being offered as FREE course to the Parishes of the Diocese as part of a project being offered by The University of Sydney, Westmead Applied Research Centre. The course runs for 2.5 hours and will be presented at two locations across the Diocese:

St Thomas Aquinas Parish, Springwood on Saturday 13 May from 10am or Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown, on Monday 5 June from 4pm.

Please contact the Parish Office for information on how to register for the venue of your choice.

Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au or call 9622 1125

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

UPDATE ON ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH MAINTENANCE WORKS

We would like to thank the generous parishioners who have funded the following:

All the doors to the Church
The restoration of the Dedication Plaque

The works still outstanding are:

Roof maintenance
Gutters Replacement
Painting of ceiling of the Sanctuary
Carpark repairs and resurfacing
The fencing of the Remembrance Garden

We need generous people to help us fund the work that is still outstanding.

Please don't hesitate to talk to one of our priests or call the parish office on 9622 1125 or email accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au. All donations are welcome.

Thank you. God bless us.

Please support the advertisers that support us. Thank You!

If you wish to advertise your business, call the Parish Office on 02 9622 1125. Please understand that Mary Queen of the Family Parish cannot take responsibility if the service provided by an advertiser does not meet expectations.

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